

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

February 12, 2014

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell
Kim Spading
Mark Peltan
Guy Richardson
Roberta Yoder

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Representative Joel Fry (absent)
Representative Lisa Heddens (absent)
Senator Jack Whitver (absent)
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)

STAFF

Chuck Palmer
Sandy Knudsen

Nancy Freudenberg
Jennifer Vermeer

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Peltan, Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. by teleconference on Wednesday, February 12, 2014, in the Director's Fifth Floor Conference Room of the Hoover Building.

ROLL CALL

All Council members were present. All ex-officio legislative members were absent.

Peltan read the following statement: The meeting of the Iowa Council on Human Services was held in accord with Section 21.8 of the Code of Iowa entitled "electronic meeting." The Code states that a governmental body may conduct a meeting by electronic means if circumstances are such that a meeting in person is impossible or impractical, or if the governmental body complies with the following rules. The rules essentially state that access must be provided to the public. The meeting was held on a speaker phone in the Director's Fifth Floor

Conference Room of the Hoover State Office Building. Notices and agendas were sent to interested groups as well as the press advising them the meeting would be held via conference call. Minutes will be kept of the meeting.

RULES

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following rules to Council.

1. Amendments to Chapters 51 and 52, State Supplementary Assistance. Implements a cost of living allowance increase.

Freudenberg said no comments were received and no revisions were made to the noticed rule.

A motion was made by Hansell to approve and seconded by Yoder. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

2. Amendments to Chapter 58, Individual Grant Assistance Program. Enhances the provision of assistance during Governor-recognized disasters to an entity contracted with the Department.

Freudenberg said no comments were received and no revisions were made to the noticed rule.

A motion was made by Hansell to approve and seconded by Richardson. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

3. Amendments to Chapter 75, Medicaid. Allowed Medicaid to evaluate IowaCare members for eligibility for the Iowa Health and Wellness Program.

Freudenberg said no comments were received and no revisions were made to the noticed rule.

A motion was made by Yoder to approve and seconded by Spading. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

4. Amendments to Chapter 75, Medicaid. Reinstates rules governing the Iowa Medicaid "lock-in" program that were inadvertently omitted from a previous version of Chapter 76.

Freudenberg said three comments were received and based on those comments revisions were made to the noticed rule.

A motion was made by Hansell to approve and seconded by Richardson. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

5. Amendments to Chapter 75, Medicaid. Allows Iowa to keep the current Family Planning Eligibility System until June 30, 2014.

Freudenberg said no comments were received and no revisions were made to the noticed rule.

A motion was made by Spading to approve and seconded by Yoder. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. Amendments to Chapters 95 and 99, Child Support Recovery. Complies with statutory guideline changes related to the establishment and modification of child support.

Freudenberg said no comments were received and no revisions were made to the noticed rule.

A motion was made by Richardson to approve and seconded by Hansell. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Richardson to approve the January 8, 2014, minutes and seconded by Hansell. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' UPDATES

Spading reported good experiences with the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan and that the Department should be congratulated.

Yoder stated that she appreciated the presentation on autism at the last Council meeting and noted there was a good article in Sunday's newspaper regarding the collaboration of the Dubuque schools and the Autism Center.

Anderson reported that he read Alyson Beytien's book "Autism Every Day" and discovered a chapter on church attendance of families of those with autism. He has suggested the book to pastor's with autistic members. Anderson also reported that he met with DHS staff following last month's Council meeting and learned more about the Family Investment Program.

Peltan noted that the changes in health care are very exciting and anticipates in just a few years that the system will be transformed entirely. He reported that his center in Mason City has a grant from the Iowa Primary Care Association to look at how they provide mental health services and integrate them into the primary care system.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By all indications, the Iowa Health and Wellness Program is going very well. Over 1,000 people per day are being added into the program. It is estimated that Iowa has over 85,000 new enrollees (IowaCare numbers included). Jennifer Vermeer reported that DHS is working with the Department of Corrections to establish processes to enroll those in community based corrections that are on probation and parole.

Palmer reported that DHS is in discussions with the legislature regarding mental health redesign in regard to offset funds that counties receive because of the Affordable Care Act. The Department is actively working with legislators to explain the methodology.

DHS is in the process of approving 28E agreements between counties to set up mental health regions. The regions are to have their first years' service plan completed by April 1st and need to get their regional boards approved and operating. Almost all the regions have designated a lead person and DHS is meeting with that group monthly to work through this transition and implementation.

Department budgets are tight. The costs for tax relief and education reform legislation passed last year begin to take effect this year, negatively impacting anticipated surpluses.

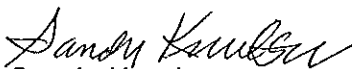
Regarding the Iowa Juvenile Home in Toledo, the local district court overturned the Governor's action to close the facility. The Governor has appealed to the Iowa Supreme Court. For various reasons there are several legislators that would like to see juvenile services provided at the Toledo campus and there has been talk about re-opening the facility.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services will be Wednesday, March 12, 2014. Mark Peltan will not be in attendance and Mark Anderson will Chair.

Council adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Submitted by,


Sandy Knudsen
Recording Secretary